

APPLICANT(S): KRAUSZ, Eliezer et al.

SERIAL NO.: 10/718,813

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1. (Currently amended) In a pipe clamp or coupling for pipe repair or for sealing relationship of two pipes by means of a metal clamping band to surround at least one of said pipes, and a flexible inner sleeve disposed inside said clamping band, said flexible inner sleeve carries an array of depressions over most of its inner face, the improvement comprising a reinforcing material coaxial with said pipe clamp or coupling associated with said flexible inner sleeve to inhibit axial expansion of said inner sleeve when said inner sleeve is under compression between said at least one of said pipes and said clamping band, wherein said flexible inner sleeve is provided with sealing lips protruding from said inner face and integral to said flexible inner sleeve on its inner face to contact said at least one of said pipes, said inner lips are made to form circumferential sealing ring around said at least one of said pipes.
2. (Previously Presented) The improvement to a pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein said reinforcing material is an aramide fiber.
3. (Previously Presented) The improvement to a pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1 wherein said reinforcing material is embedded within said sleeve.
4. (Previously Presented) The improvement to a pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1 wherein said reinforcing material is bonded to said sleeve.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Cancelled)

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7. (Previously Presented) The improvement to a pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flexible inner sleeve comprises a flat mat having a first end and a second end, said first end being attached to said band and said second end being free to overlap the inner surface of said mat retained in a cylindrical configuration when disposed inside said band.

8. (Previously Presented) The improvement to a pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ends of said flexible inner sleeve are tapered in a peripheral direction.

9. (Cancelled)